

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	
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Takashi SUZUMURA et al.)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)	
Application No.: Unassigned (DIV Application)	Examiner: Unassigned
of Application No. 09/783,992))	
)	Confirmation No.: Unassigned
Filed: October 22, 2003)	
)	
For: CARRIER AND METHOD OF)	
MANUFACTURING CARRIER)	

FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the following information is brought to the Examiner's attention.

British Patent Specification No. 1 573 175.

European Patent Publication No. 0 271 046. This document was cited by the Examiner during prosecution of the parent application and was said to disclose "a carrier having joints connecting a pair of flanges."

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 10-288248. A discussion of relevance of this document is set forth on page one of the present application. An English-language abstract of this document is attached.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 7-133848. This documents discloses an integrally welded carrier with flanges. An English-language abstract of this document is attached.

Japanese Patent Publication No. 59-126136. An English-language abstract of this document is attached. This document was cited by the Examiner during prosecution of the parent application and was said to disclose "a carrier having joints connecting a pair of flanges."

Japanese Patent Publication No. 58-156773. An English-language abstract of this document is attached. This document was cited by the Examiner during prosecution of the parent application and was said to disclose "a carrier having joints connecting a pair of flanges."

U.S. Patent No. 3,842,481.

U.S. Patent No. 4,043,021.

U.S. Patent No. 4,129,050.

U.S. Patent No. 5,470,286.

U.S. Patent No. 5,658,215.

U.S. Patent No. 6,371,571.

U.S. Patent No. 6,428,112.

The following two documents were cited in a Search Report issued by the European Patent Office in connection with a corresponding foreign application. A copy of the Search Report is enclosed.

U.S. Patent No. 5,292,292.

German Auslegeschrift No. 26 05 230.

The foregoing documents were cited during prosecution of parent Application No. 09/783,992, filed February 16, 2001, which serves as the basis for a claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 1.20 in this application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) copies of the documents need not be provided. However, to assist the Examiner, copies of the non-U.S. patents are enclosed.

To assist the Examiner in entering the foregoing information into the record, the above-noted documents are cited on the attached form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents are enclosed.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the foregoing information and to acknowledge such consideration by initialling, signing and returning the enclosed additional copy of form PTO-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER, & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: October 22, 2003

By: Matthew L. Schneider
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Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO	ATTORNEY'S DKT NO. 032218-018	APPLICATION NO. Unassigned
	APPLICANT Takashi SUZUMURA et al.	
	FILING DATE October 22, 2003	GROUP Unassigned

FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)
	3,842,481		LAING	10-22-1974
	4,043,021		MOSBACHER et al.	8-23-1977
	4,129,050		AKASHI et al.	12-12-1978
	5,292,292	A	HEINRICH et al.	3-08-1994
	5,470,286	A	FAN	11-28-1995
	5,658,215	A	PREMISKI et al.	8-19-1997
	6,371,571	B1	TSAN	4-16-2002
	6,428,112	B1	PASSOTH et al.	8-06-2002

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	Translation Yes No
	1 573 175		GREAT BRITAIN	8-20-1980	
	0 271 416	A1	EUROPE	6-15-1988	
	26 05 230	B1	GERMANY	7-28-1977	
	58-156773	A	JAPAN	9-17-1983	
	59-126136	A	JAPAN	7-20-1984	
	7-133848	A	JAPAN	5-23-1995	
	10-288248	A	JAPAN	10-27-1998	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.